

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the title of the invention with the following amended title of invention:

PRODUCTION PROCESS FOR 16-DEHYDROPREGNEOLONE 46-
~~DEHYDROPREGNEOLONE~~ AND ITS ANALOGS

Please replace page 1, last paragraph (also marked as paragraph [0006] in the published application) with the following amended paragraph:

The present invention is the ~~extending of~~ continuous effort from Tian's previous ~~prevenient~~ inventions (Weisheng Tian, et al, Chinese patent, patent No: 96116304.6; Chinese patent, application No: 00127974.2; Chinese patent, application No: 01113196.9 etc).

Please replace the section heading on page 2, line 1 (just prior to paragraph [0007] in the published application), with the following amended section heading:

~~Abstract~~ Summary of the invention

Please replace the abstract of the invention with the following amended abstract; a revised abstract with all amendments incorporated therein is attached on a separate sheet of paper:

~~The present invention relates to a clean process~~ Process for producing the degradation of ~~steroidal sapogenin to produce~~ 16-dehydropregnenolone and its analogs[.] ~~from The pure or the~~ ~~crude~~ pseudo steroidal sapogenin[,] derived from steroidal sapogenin, having the steps of dissolving the pseudo steroidal sapogenin dissolved in an organic solvent, and reacting ~~reacts~~ with hydrogen peroxide, optionally with a ~~with or without~~ metal compound and an acid as catalyst[.], ~~and the~~ The crude products directly go through elimination and hydrolization in the presence of a base to give 16-Dehydropregnenolone or its analog ~~analog~~, ~~accompanied with the~~ ~~other product~~ 4R(or S)-methyl-5-hydroxy-pentate, which is converted to 4R(or S)-methyl- δ -

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pentyl lactone after acidification and extraction from the water layer. ~~This technology improved the utilizing degree of steroidal sapogenin, improved the yield, and cleared up the chromium pollution in the former technique. In a word, the method disclosed in this invention is more suitable for manufacture.~~